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Mexico

Agricultural Situation

Sagarpa postpones new import requirement for U.S. grains at Veracruz port

2003

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Report Highlights:

The Agriculture Ministry (SAGARPA) postponed by 60 calendar days the enforcement of the new import requirement for U.S. grains at Veracruz port (See MX 3106). The new date when the requirement will be enforced is calculated to be on/about October 4, 2003, as SAGARPA did not specify the exact date.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Mexico [MX1]
[MX]

Through two internal communications dated August 8 and 12, 2003, SAGARPA's General Direction of Phyto-zoo sanitary Inspection offices at Veracruz and Tuxpan announced an extension of 60 calendar days to enforce the requirement for receiving original export phytosanitary certificates before inspecting grain shipments (see MX 3106). Despite the fact that these internal communications did not specify the exact date when the requirement will be enforced, that date is calculated to be on/about October 4, 2003, as the original announcement had August 4 as the start date.

SAGARPA officials indicated that they have continued to inspect grain shipments with copies of the export phytosanitary certificates. The procedure is as follows: the custom broker or the exporter presents a copy of the phytosanitary certificate to SAGARPA officers along with a letter promising to present the original certificate some days later. Official sources confirmed that internal auditors reviewed the procedure and had expressed concern about delays in the submission of original documents. Therefore, they urged inspection offices to request the original phytosanitary certificate prior to a vessel being permitted to discharge.

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FAS Mexico Web Site: We are available at <http://www.fas-la.com/mexico> or visit our headquarter's home page at <http://www.fas.usda.gov> for a complete selection of FAS' worldwide agricultural reporting.

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagarpa.gob.mx and Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at www.se.gob.mx. These web sites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with the information contained on the mentioned sites.